The Stamps of Baranya

by
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edited and annotated by
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Translated from Hungarian by
Anthony Müller

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Translator's and editors' notes within the text are given in italics, within square brackets. Translator's expansions of the original text are given in normal font, also within square brackets.

Significant additional insights on the issues of Baranya have accrued over the 60 years since the edition translated here was published. Annotations presenting some these insights and providing new, color illustrations supplementing the black and white originals have been included throughout the text in boxes such as this one. Their content is the authored by and the responsibility of the annotators, and not of the original author.

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Of the occupation issues, those of Debrecen and Szeged have been worked up in detail and have appeared in the form of small monographs. Over the years, articles on Baranya's stamps have appeared in various periodicals, but until now this material has not gone to press in a complete and comprehensive way. The most extensive of these articles was the study of Jozsef Joszt, but this remained unfinished and did not embrace the totality of the material. We therefore fill the breach, when we contribute the present work-up of the stamps of Baranya.

Baranya I Issue

Serb forces occupied Pécs and Baranya on November 15th, 1918. The occupation had no consequence from a philatelic point of view. The Post and Telegraph Office of Pécs continued to be supplied from Budapest. Thus, there was no need to overprint stamps.

A wide variety of explanations have been put forth concerning the origin of the overprints. Some maintain that they were created for speculation; others claim that the Serbs wanted

to take the stamps and wanted to overprint them with "S.H.S." According to another version, the post office did not receive adequate supply from Budapest, etc. etc. All this is assumption. The real reason for the overprints requires the understanding of several circumstances.

In the seventh month of the occupation, the occupying military authority decreed that all currency in circulation be stamped and that, from then on, the Yugoslav crown was the [only] accepted currency.

The consequence of this action was that in occupied Pécs and Baranya, postage stamps could only be purchased using these stamped Yugoslav crowns. Consider also that at that time, the communism was already raging in Hungary and that so-called "white money" was in circulation. It was effectively worthless, except for the purchase of postage stamps. Further, there was an appreciable difference in value between the "white money" and the Yugoslav crown, and a natural smuggling and black market in postage stamps evolved. Hungarian stamps remained in circulation in the occupied territory, without any designation or markings. Therefor Hungarian stamps were smuggled by the sheet from the area of Csonka to the occupied territory. As a result, the postal income of Pécs and of the Baranya region fell to a minimum. Everyone used the smuggled and cheaply obtainable stamps. The postal authorities of Pécs recognized the problem and slowly concluded that if they do not act quickly, they would not even be able to pay their employees.

There was yet another reason for the need to create the overprints. To illuminate this, we present the following article from the Pécs paper *Dun·nt ✯l* for April 18, 1919:

"*A new kind of stamp in Pécs*

Pécs, 1919 April 17

The postal administration of Pécs acquires its various stamp stocks from Budapest. There are some types of stamps that are consumed rapidly. According to custom, these are

replenished regularly, if not monthly. These stamps include, among others, the 45 fillér registered and the 105 fillér express-registered letter stamps. The termination of rail service with unoccupied areas has put the postal administration in the difficult position of not having been able to resupply stamp stocks from Budapest for months. Stamps are almost impossible to get in town, which is particularly unpleasant because the countryside also gets its stamps from Pécs.

The postal administration has decided that it will attempt to reduce the intensity of the stamp shortage by reintroducing the previously withdrawn Turul-design stamps. They further decided that the stamp denominations least used currently would be revalued to the denominations most used. Such stamps are, for example, those used for registered and express-registered letters."

As is apparent from the article, on the one hand the poor transportation conditions did not allow the Pécs postal administration to be resupplied. On the other, the struggling Hungarian post under the communist government of the time also suffered from stamp shortages, because it did not have enough paper for its presses, because the continually changing political situation constantly disrupted production and because the citizens of Budapest and of the countryside bought up stamps to get rid of worthless "white money". Therefor barely any of the limited production [of Budapest] got to the Pécs administration. Conversely, there had been large quantities of unpopular stamps and turul-design stamps removed from sale. The revaluation and reissue of these stamps became an obvious necessity.

By the end of March 1919, the postal administration of Pécs had already proposed to the Hungarian "popular" government that they authorize (for the reasons above) the overprinting and issue of the stamps on hand.

Directive number 7155 satisfying the request, issued on 30 March 1919 and appearing in the registry of *Postal and Telegraph Directives of the Hungarian Soviet Republic* [P&TRT] on 3 April, stated:

"I authorize the Pécs Postal and Telegraph Administration to take from its supply the 2 fillér postage stamps and revalue them to 105 fillér, the 5 and 15 fillér stamps to 45 fillér and the 2 fillér postage due stamps to 40 fillér and to add the overprint of "Transdanubian occupation 1919" to each. I also authorize them to reissue at their original denominations the 6, 50, 60, 70 and 80 fillér turul design stamps which have been already withdrawn from use, also with the "Transdanubian occupation 1919" overprint."

The Pécs postal administration prepared a trial printing, of the text above in red, on a few 2 fillér stamps. They showed these, along with the directive above, to the Serbian authorities. The text did not please the headquarters of the occupying forces, who declared that they would not authorize the proposed text for political reasons, but that they would have no objection if "Baranya 1919" were overprinted. Note that a commission was established to select the final form of the overprint, to determine how the overprint would be applied and to supervise the overprinting.

The commission, which was initially authorized to issue only nine overprinted stamps, decided to revalue many more. Considering that the Pécs postal administration remained in Hungarian hands within Baranya county, they did not want to acknowledge the authority of the Bolshevik administration [in Budapest]. Their decision to overprint the entire stamp supply at hand was a demonstration of this rebellion. The [communist] directorate in Budapest only learned of this much later, as is clear from the 7 June order appearing in the *Official Journal of the Post, Telegraph and Telephone of the Hungarian Soviet Republic* 14 June 1919 issue, number 13.171, which stated:

"*With respect to Directive 7155, which appeared in number 28 of this year's P&TRT, I inform the post offices that*

the Pécs Postal and Telegraph Administration began on 5 May of this year to put into circulation the stamps listed below at their unaltered values, overprinted "Baranya 1919" rather than with the authorized overprint "Transdanubian occupation 1919": 2, 3, 5, 6, 15, 35, 40 fillér harversters; 6, 50, 60, 70, 80 fillér turul; 10, 20, 25 fillér King Károly portrait; 40 fillér Queen Zita; 50, 75, 80 fillér and 1, 2, 3, 5 and 10 korona parliament; 10, 15 and 50 fillér war relief; and, finally, the 2, 10 and 20 fillér postage due. The 5 and 15 fillér, as well as the 2 fillér harvester stamps were in part also overprinted with 45 fillér."

The Pécs Main Post Office

Preparation for overprinting began in April. Gyula Miklósi, industrial artist and city engineer, prepared the artistic models [designs] of the overprints. Unfortunately, these were not realized, because of the primitive facilities at the printer and the urgency of the project.

[Rather,] the overprint was prepared by hand in quarter sheets; that is in panels of 25 stamps. Stereotypes set [composed] from these were used to cast press plates. These were welded up to create the 100-stamp sheet-size press plates. Several such plates were prepared, so the overprinting could be done on several presses at once.

The conditions of the times are reflected in the article below, which appeared in the *Dunántúl* newspaper on 6 May 1919, the day of the overprinted stamps were issued:

"They Released the Overprinted Stamps Today

This morning they began to issue the stamps overprinted "Baranya 1919" at the main post office. This resulted in great liveliness in the glass-topped hall of the main post office. Long double lines had already formed at the stamp sales windows by 8AM. They waited impatiently, but with the perseverance of those in a bread line. In fact, the subject was not bread, but a commodity of almost equal value. Men, women, official stamp dealers, passionate collectors, businessmen, and youths milled about not just from noon but all day long, in the domed hall…

The overprinting was done by the Pécs Literature and Book Press Stock Company (Pécsi Irodalmi és Könyvnyomdai Részvénytárssaság) …

From the 28 different overprinted varieties, the postal authorities assembled collections consisting of 1236 stamps. The face value of a collection is 827 korona 80 filler.

The collection contains

40	*former 2 fillér stamps,*
20	*value altered 5 fillér stamps,*
100	*5 fillér stamps retaining their old value,*
20	*stamps with 45 fillér revaluing 15 fillér stamps,*
20	*of these retaining the old 15 fillér value,*
20	*2 fillér stamps,*
40	*2 fillér postage due stamps,*
100	*6 fillér stamps,*
60	*50 fillér stamps,*
40	*70 fillér with red overprints,*
40	*70 fillér with black overprints,*
100	*6 fillér stamps,*
60	*3 fillér stamps,*
20	*6 fillér stamps,*
100	*King Károly portrait 10 fillér stamps,*
8	*King Károly portrait 20 fillér stamps,*
20	*25 fillér stamps,*
20	*40 fillér Queen Zita stamps,*
40	*50 fillér stamps,*
40	*70 fillér stamps,*
40	*80 fillér stamps,*
40	*3 korona stamps,*
20	*5 korona stamps,*
8	*1 korona stamps,*
30	*10 fillér postage due stamps, and*
30	*20 fillér postage due stamps.*

[This totals 1076 stamps and 26 varieties, which is inconsistent with the text above.]

Such collections have been sent to each post office. The price of a half collection was 413K 90f, a quarter collection 206K 95f. Simultaneous with the issuing of these stamps was the

beginning of the bourse [secondary market]. Bidding began and by the afternoon the price of the 827K 80f face-value collection had jumped to 3000 korona. But sellers were reticent to part with their holdings, since they anticipate prices to rise further."

Thus read the *Dunántúl* paper. Obviously, it had not yet become common knowledge that some of the rarer issues were not included in the collection.

The fact that the stamp set released during the first days [of the overprint issue] was not complete, soon became known to the public. The news of the issue also spread rapidly overseas, so that the celebrity of the issue outgrew local proportions. This is evident from subsequent news. In the 11 May 1919 edition of *Dun nt l* appeared:

"*THE CELEBRETY OF BARANYA*

The stamps overprinted "Baranya 1919" are historical documents. They are a reminder of the exceptional times during which Baranya lies isolated from the world while surrounded by the world-shaking events. This circumstance lends value to the historical importance of the stamps just issued…

The postal authorities overprinted 4 million 700 thousand stamps all together.

The lowest production was of the Zita stamps, and among those, the ones already overprinted by the Hungarian Soviet Republic. These are also the most valuable ones. Speculation has driven their price up to 80 korona each.

It is interesting that as soon as the news of the overprints spread, a consortium was established by financiers of Pécs, Eszék and Fiume. The consortium offered the postal authorities to take the entire 4,700,000 piece, 2,000,000 korona issue at a price twice the face value, and take responsibility for getting them to the people. Naturally, the postal authorities could not accept this offer. The consortium was nevertheless tenacious

and finally made [another] offer of 10,000,000 [korona]. This too was rejected.

Post offices in the countryside naturally received smaller quantities of the overprints…

In order to be able to pay the April salaries of its officials and employees, the postal administration has already borrowed 700,000 korona worth of treasury notes [tickets] from the city. After May salaries [are paid], little of these assets remain for June. In order to assure government income that sustains the salaries of officials, post offices were naturally the first to get collections to sell…

Only the point of sale at the main post office provided stamps to private citizens, and this was limited to 10 or 15 korona of value. In this way anyone could get them, if they had the time and nervous temperament to wait until their turn came in line…

Today, the postal administration has completely stopped issuing collections. Starting on Monday, stamps will not even be available at the point of sale at the main post office. Starting Monday, the post office will only give out stamps if they are immediately applied to letters to be sent and they are canceled on site with the postal canceler. If for no other reason, this arrangement was necessary because the supply was so heavily depleted that none remains for rural post offices or for in-house use.

The values of the 4,7000,000 korona [sic] face value issue of the Pécs postal administration is already worth 68 to 70 million korona. This is contrasted to the benefit derived buy the post office, which is limited to only the small increase in face value of some of the overprinted stamps, over the original face value. Under these circumstances, the Post can not be accused of gouging."

The arrangement that stamps could only be applied to letters at the post office had its own tribulations. Given that stamps were unavailable at tobacconists, or other traditional sources, everyone needing to mail a letter was required to go to the main post office and only there could they mail the letter. This gave rise to many complaints. Merchants and companies wanted to convince the postal administration to issue new stamps of original design showing the coat of arms of Baranya County. These they ought to produce in the required amounts, and thus remedy the situation. But this did not come to pass. The stamp purchasing fever subsided first. People no longer thronged the main post office and, by the end of May, the postal administration was issuing small numbers of stamps to the public once again.

The overprinting of stamps was officially ended on the 10th of May. On 17 May the original type set and the stereotype plates were destroyed by the supervising commission, in the presence of the print shop managers.

The Quantities of Baranya I Stamps

Much information about the numbers of the different stamps overprinted has appeared in various philatelic publications, catalogs, and even in the daily papers of Pécs. There is more or less agreement among them. Below we will list the Pécs postal administration's 11 July 1919 official record of issued numbers of "Baranya 1919" overprinted stamps, witnessed by Lajos Solti, chief counsel and the director of the Pécs postal administration and bearing the administration's official seal.

Turul Stamps

6 fillér, olive brown , red overprint	45,300
50 fillér, scarlet, blue paper, black overprint	231,800
60 fillér, green, salmon paper, black overprint	54,300
70 fillér, brown, green underprinting, black overprint	181,500
70 fillér, brown, green underprinting, red overprint	20,000
80 fillér, violet, red overprint	12,500

War Relief Stamps

50 fillér, scarlet, blue paper, black overprint	4,850
10 fillér, red, black overprint	127,400
15 fillér, violet, black overprint	109,200

Special Delivery Stamps

105 on 2 fillér, black overprint	34,500

Harvester Stamps

2 fillér, yellowish brown, red overprint	256,700
2 fillér, yellowish brown, black overprint	9,200
3 fillér, deep violet, , black overprint	109,000
3 fillér, deep violet, red overprint	50,400
5 fillér, green, red overprint	277,800
5 fillér, green, black overprint	49,400
6 fillér, bluish green, black overprint	23,000
6 fillér, bluish green, red overprint	18,900
15 fillér, violet, black overprint	120,200
20 fillér, brown, black overprint	2,000
25 fillér, blue, black overprint	12,700
35 fillér, chocolate brown, black overprint	7,000
40 fillér, olive green, black overprint	2,000

Parliament Stamps

50 fillér, deep violet, black overprint	19,300
75 fillér, blue, black overprint	103,300
80 fillér, green, black overprint	63,200
1 korona, red, black overprint	72,100
2 korona, yellowish brown, black overprint	64,450
3 korona, violet/gray, black overprint	61,800
5 korona, brown, black overprint	31,000
10 korona, bright violet, black overprint	10,200

King Károly Stamps

10 fillér, red, black overprint	557,000
20 fillér, brown, black overprint	475,800
25 fillér, blue, red overprint	36,300

25 fillér, blue, black overprint	26,900

Queen Zita Stamps

40 fillér, green, black overprint	19,200
40 fillér, green, red overprint	3,100

Revalued Harvester Stamps

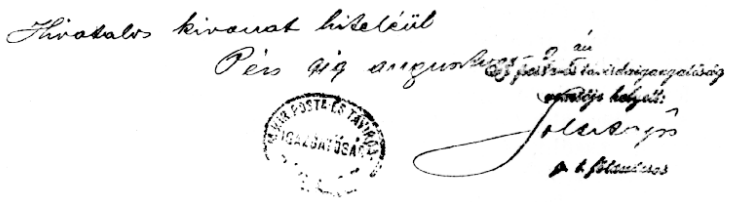
45 on 2 fillér, black overprint	119,800
45 on 5 fillér, black overprint	450,000
45 on 15 fillér, black overprint	500,000

Köztársaság Stamps

2 fillér, harvester, black overprint	13,000
45 on 2 fillér, harvester, black overprint	20,000
45 on 2 fillér, harvester, black overprint	90,000
40 fillér, Queen Zita, red overprint	2,000
40 fillér, Queen Zita, black overprint	500

Postage Due Stamps

2 fillér, green/red, black overprint	10,500
10 fillér, green/red, black overprint	31,100
20 fillér, green/red, black overprint	25,000
40 on 2 fillér, black overprint	26,900



Only these [49] values were issued officially and therefor are the only ones that should appear in the catalog [of Baranya stamps]. Clearly, the statistics above do not make a distinction between printing methods and, similarly, color

variations are also lumped together. The degree of rarity of these distinctions will eventually determine pricing.

Now we wish to address the subject of often mis-catalogued stamps. In fact, one test printed sheet of the 20f King Károly stamp was prepared with red overprinting, but this count increased to three sheets. Since the red overprint was not visible on the brown stamp, subsequent sheets were overprinted in black. Further, a few additional examples have found the light of day, which were overprinted on values in private hands, against wishes of the commission. These values were not even present in supply available to the post office. While it is a fact that these were prepared with the genuine overprints, since they were never sold by the postal administration (as is clear from the information above), they can not even be called test printings. Thus they can be called essays, at best.

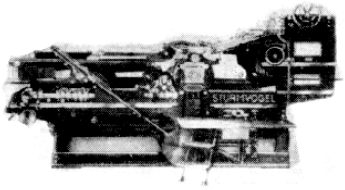
These manufactured rarities found themselves in "safe hands" even before the official overprints were put into circulation. In the most part, they were held by the Eszék consortium. After 20 years they have begun to appear [on the market] here and there. The true specialized collector who also collects curiosities can place them in his collection, particularly since they are extremely inexpensive relative to their rarity.

These values, which appear as trial printings in the official record of the postal administration, where the following:

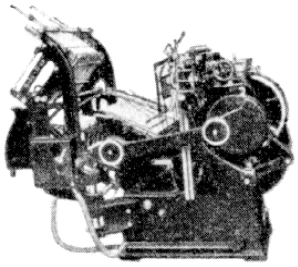
45 on 15 fillér, King Károly, black overprint	2600
2 fillér, turul, red overprint	600
2 fillér, harvester Köztársaság, red overprint	400
50 fillér, Queen Zita, red overprint	100
60 fillér, turul, white paper, red overprint	80
60 fillér, turul, white paper, black overprint	50
40 fillér, Queen Zita Köztársaság, overprint from the postage due stamps in black, in vertical position	100
20 fillér, brown King Károly, red overprint	300

Only the latter (and of those, only 100) can be truly considered a test printing. The Michel catalog assigns roman numerals to them and very appropriately notes that only the 20f King Károly can be considered a test printing. On the other hand, the pricing is completely erroneous, as can be seen from the production quantities listed above. This is because a stamp which exist in only 100 copies can not be valued at 20 marks, no matter what kind of a test printing it may be, but must be valued at appreciably more.

In the following section we will address the particularities of the various overprints, differences in type and characteristics of the two printing methods (using automatic quick presses and pedal-initiated presses). We will do this because, first, this information has not yet been worked up in this way and, second, because the differences in overprints provide a point of reference for the identification of forgeries. There are, in fact, some types of stamps that were produced with only one type of overprint. The forger, not knowing this, used another type, making the forgery easier to detect. In addition, we will present the two shades of red overprinting, carmine and cinnabar red, and on which stamps they appear.



Quick Press



Pedal Press

There has been appreciable confusion in the translation of “gyorssajtó” and “tégelysajtó”, the terms used by Szabó-Antal to describe the two printing presses. After considerable research[1], we have opted to describe them as “automatic quick

[1] A.B. Müller, C. K✱halmi and C. Brainard, The Presses of Baranya, The News of Hungarian Philately 32, 2 (2001) p.4-5.

press" (or simply "quick press") and "pedal-initiated press" (or simply "pedal press") respectively.

As we have mentioned earlier, several presses were run at the same time, due to the urgency of completing the overprinting. It was accomplished with two types of presses, namely quick and pedal presses. The two types of resulting imprints differed significantly from each other. Below, we present enlargements of the imprints resulting from the two press types for a single overprint type [style]. This is unnecessary with the other overprint types since they are produced only on a single type of press. As can be seen from the figure, the overprints from the quick press are sharp, clean edged, soot-black, and do not (or barely) press out on the backside of the stamp. The over-

Pedal press Quick press

prints of the pedal press are grayish black, appreciably broader, with the edges of the letters having darker borders, and the printing presses through appreciably to the back of the stamp. The red overprint was also done on several machines, so the mixture of the ink was not constant either. For this reason, two color shades were produced: one carmine and the other cinnabar.

Pedal press Quick press

Pedal-initiated Press

The impressions made by the pedal-initiated presses appear to have been created under greater pressure than those of quick presses. The ink appears to have been “squeezed out” from below the type face, and to have accumulated along the edges (silhouette) of the characters, leaving the middle of strokes lighter and grayer than the edges. The resulting overprints appear fatter, serifs are less distinct, stokes comprising the letters are thicker and wider, and there is appreciable infilling in closed loops. These characteristics appear in different degrees in different examples.

Automatic Quick Press

The impressions made by the automatic quick presses appear to have been created under a lower pressure than those of the pedal presses. The ink appears dark black, evenly distributed throughout the printed surface of each letter. The resulting overprints appear to be made up of thinner letters, serifs are distinct, stokes comprising the letters are crisp and well-defined, and the closed loops of letters are clear and open. These characteristics appear to be fairly uniform among overprints printed on the quick presses, but under inking can cause light impressions and skipping.

In composing the page, the year date was produced with smaller characters; specifically in the in the 19th and 20th positions on the quarter sheet. Since a sheet is made of four quarters, the smaller date occurs eight times in a sheet. Not only are the dates smaller, but the ones in "1919" also have hooks [serifs], as can be seen in the figures. This error, or should I say type, is found only on this printing plate and in fact occurs in the 34, 35, 39, 40, 84, 85, 89 and 90 positions of the full sheet.

(a) Overprint

Error

(b) Overprint

Error

(c) Overprint

Error

While on page 15 the author acknowledges that they may be "types", he prefers to refer to these variations in font as "errors". Since they appear systematically throughout the issue and since they were clearly sold and used in this form as well, we prefer to consider them types or varieties.

The Location of the Seven Errors on a Quarter Sheet.

Another, not so significant overprint difference can be found in another type, which we also present. In the normal case, the upper loop of the initial "B" in "Baranya" is smaller than the lower one. However, we find examples where loops of the letter "B" are of equal size. Such equal-looped "B"s occur in a quarter sheet (blocks of 25) in the 1st and 3rd positions of the first row, the 1st position of the second and third rows, the 2nd position in the fourth row, and the 2nd and 5th positions of the fifth row. Thus they occur seven times in a quarter sheet and 28 times in a complete sheet.

Quarter sheet of 5 fillér harvester base stamps overprinted in red using the pedal press (Brainard #D14). This stamp was overprinted in both carmine and vermilion (called cinnabar in the original text); the vermilion variety is illustrated. White arrows show the two positions per quarter sheet that have the date printed in a font with serifs. In this upper left quarter pane, they correspond to positions 34 and 35 of the sheet. White circles point out characteristic breaks in the "B" and the 1919, a plate scratch, and the characteristic 1919 variety in position 10 of the this quarter sheet (positions 15, 20, 65 and 70 of the sheet).

Quarter sheet of 5 fillér harvester base stamps overprinted and revalued to 45 fillér in black, using the quick press (Brainard #D25). The illustration of this block appearing in the original text is shown on page 19 above. White arrows show the seven positions where the “B” with equal size loops occurs in each quarter sheet. White circles point out the characteristic broken impression resulting from irregular type height in position 16 of the this quarter sheet (positions 31, 36, 81 and 86 of the full sheet) and the “missing” 5 in position 21 sheet (positions 41, 46, 91 and 96 of the sheet)

Quarter sheet of 75 fillér parliament base stamps overprinted using the pedal press (Brainard #D28). White arrows show the two positions per quarter sheet that have the date printed in a serif font and the position where the date is in mixed fonts. White circles show characteristic typographic varieties.

Quarter sheet of 20 fillér postage due base stamps overprinted using the pedal press (Brainard #D48). White arrows show the 7 positions where the “B” with equal size loops occurs in each quarter sheet (28 times per sheet). White circles point out characteristic breaks in the “B” that are common to this issue.

Significantly shifted overprints, both vertically and horizontally, are common, and transfer offsets on the gum side can be encountered as well.

Inverted overprints are well known: black overprinted 50 fillér turul; war relief 10 fillér; 2, 15, and 25 harvesters; 45/2, 45/5 and 45/15 fillér revalued harvesters; carmine overprinted 70 fillér turul; 2 fillér harvester; cinnabar overprinted 5 cinnabar harvester. In addition, the parliament 75 cinnabar; King Károly 10 fillér; 45/2 fillér harvester-köztársaság; 105/2 fillér special delivery and 10 fillér are also known.

Shifted overprint

Offset transfer

Double overprints are also known: such as the 15 fillér war relief; 2 fillér harvester in each color; 15 fillér harvester; 45/5 and 45/15 fillér revalued harvesters; 20 fillér King Károly; 40 fillér Queen Zita; 45/2 fillér harvester- köztársaság; and the 40/2 fillér postage due.

Inverted overprints

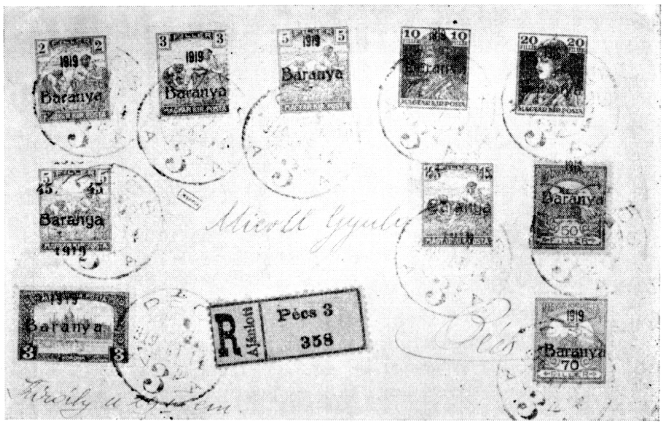
Additional varieties

The *t●te b●che* double overprint above does not appear to have been known to Szabó-Antal. Note that it has both a common and an equal-looped "B". The plate position of the equal looped variety precludes it from falling on the same stamp in *t●te b●che* configuration, and if found, would be a clear indication of forgery.

The 50 fillér turul has been observed with the overprint on the back. So called "blind printings" also occur. They arise when two sheets are fed simultaneously into the press and the lower sheet gets no color but does get a "blind printing" or embossing visible on the back. This occurs on about 8 values, but they do not disserve particular attention. They are mentioned here only to assure the completeness of this monograph.

Of the types above, only the small 1919 (valued at 10 times the base price) and the inverted overprint (valued at 20 times) are significant. We can place these in our collections quite readily because printing types are not generally considered when stamps are sold, so they can be acquired cheaply.

Naturally, the stamps of Baranya are worth significantly more on original, postally used covers. Most of the stamps



circulating on the market are mint or have been favor canceled [canceled to order]. Letters that have actually passed through the mails command a premium price and become the prized showpieces of more comprehensive Baranya collections.

Among postally used covers, we would like to make a distinction between philatelic covers (those prepared with a variety of stamps, with disregard to correct franking) and decorative but functional covers (those with correct franking, even if used to showcase stamps). The former, like the two Gyula Miertl covers illustrated on this page, are useful references for judging forgeries, but are generally less valued by collectors than correctly franked, postally used covers.

Canceled or used Baranya stamps can only be valued on cover. This is why we only give the prices of mint stamps. To communicate the price sets from the period, we present below an offering from 1920:

	korona
49 value full set	6,500
48 values	2,900
44 values	1,500
42 values	1,100
40 values	900
35 values	560
30 values	400
26 values	320
24 values	260

The 49 value full set consisted of the stamps officially issued by the post office, which we listed earlier, and thus was without color varieties, etc. The offer presents variation of prices in the set, and rarity can be well determined from it. Naturally, they offered the full and nearly full sets as individual items, while the smaller sets were offered in lots of 10, and starting at the 35-value lot they were offered in lots of 100 at substantial discount.

Pricing the Stamps of Baranya

We will now give the pricing of all "Baranya 1919" stamps, including color varieties and printing types. The prices are given net, in pengö-fillér. This setup also gives protection against forgeries. Even those who do not understand the examination of stamps can, based on this list, easily establish which values exist as quick press printings and which exist only as pedal press printings. Primarily the uncommon varieties were prepared by the pedal press. If a stamp in question does not bare such an overprint, the overprint is surely false.

Value	Overprint Color		Quick Press	Overprint Color	Pedal Press
		TURUL			
50 fillér	black	(a)	0.16	--	--
60 fillér	black	(a)	0.10	--	--
70 fillér	black	(a)	0.06	carmine	0.18
6 fillér	--	(a)	--	carmine	0.12
80 fillér	--	(a)	--	carmine	0.60
		WAR RELIEF			
50+2 (turul)	black	(a)	3.50	black	10.00
10 fillér (hussar)	black	(a)	0.06	black	0.20

15 fillér (infantry)	black	(a)	0.10	black	0.30
		HARVESTER			
2 fillér	cinnabar	(a)	0.20	cinnabar	0.10
	--		--	carmine	0.10
	--		--	black	0.60
3 fillér	black	(a)	0.20	black	0.08
	--		--	cinnabar	0.60
	--		--	carmine	0.06
5 fillér	black	(a)	0.12	black	0.06
	cinnabar	(a)	0.20	cinnabar	0.12
6 fillér	--	(a)	--	cinnabar	0.20
	--	(a)	--	black	0.15
15 fillér	black	(a)	0.10	black	0.15
20 fillér	--	(a)	--	black	3.00
25 fillér	black	(a)	1.50	black	1.00
35 fillér	black	(a)	2.00	black	1.50
40 fillér	--	(a)	--	black	5.00
		PARLIAMENT			
50 fillér	black	(b)	0.35	--	--
75 fillér	black	(b)	0.06	--	--
80 fillér	black	(b)	0.10	--	--
1 korona	black	(b)	0.12	--	--
2 korona	black	(b)	0.15	--	--
3 korona	black	(b)	0.15	--	--
5 korona	black	(b)	0.50	--	--
10 korona	black	(b)	1.50	--	--

Value	**Overprint Color**		**Quick Press**	**Overprint Color**	**Pedal Press**
		KING KÁROLY & QUEEN ZITA			
10 fillér	black	(a)	0.04	black	0.10
20 fillér	black	(a)	0.04	black	0.10
25 fillér	black	(a)	0.50	black	0.20
	--	(a)	--	cinnabar	0.30
40 fillér	--	(a)	--	cinnabar	4.00
	--	(a)	--	black	2.00
		KÖZTÁRSASÁG			
2 fillér (harvester)	--	(a)	--	black	2.00
40 fillér (Zita)	--	(a)	--	black	60.00
	--	(a)	--	cinnabar	10.00

REVALUED

45/2 fillér (harvester)	black	(c)	0.05	black	0.10
45/5 fillér (harvester)	black	(c)	0.03	black	0.05
45/15 fillér (harvester)	black	(c)	0.10	black	0.03
45/2 fillér (köztársaság)	--	(c)	--	black	0.20
	--	(c)	--	carmine	0.06
105/2 fillér (special del.)	--	(c)	--	black	0.50

POSTAGE DUE

2 fillér	--	(e)	--	black	0.40
10 fillér	--	(e)	--	black	0.10
20 fillér	--	(e)	--	black	0.15
40/2 fillér	--	(e)	--	black	0.20

(a) overprint

(b) overprint

(c) overprint

(d) overprint

(e) overprint

The so-called trial printings have the following prices:

45 on 15 fillér, King Károly, black overprint	10.00
2 fillér, turul, red overprint	20.00
2 fillér, harvester Köztársaság, red overprint	25.00
50 fillér, Queen Zita, red overprint	50.00
60 fillér, turul, white paper, red overprint	70.00
60 fillér, turul, white paper, black overprint	60.00
40 fillér, Queen Zita Köztársaság, overprint (e) from the postage due stamps in black, in vertical position	100.00

20 fillér, brown King Károly, red overprint 40.00

Prices are not set by actual rarity, since appreciably higher prices would be commanded if they were based on the numbers of other stamps printed and the size of these issues. Occupation stamps are also less sought after because of all the forgeries, thus their prices are appreciably cheaper than their rarity would dictate. We placed a price on the 20 fillér King Károly stamp above the others because it really is a trial printing and because the *Senf* and *Scott* catalogs have listed it with a major number. It is thus worth relatively more, regardless of the number issued being greater.

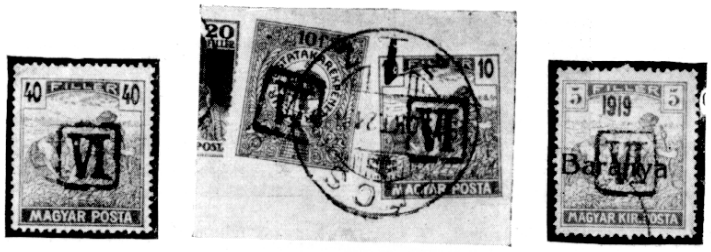
Eight stamps were overprinted in addition to those officially issued.. Of these eight, only the red overprint applied to the 20 fillér King Károly stamps can be considered a trial printing. They were prepared as a test to see if a red overprint could be seen on a brown stamp. The test was unsuccessful. The other seven stamps were overprinted privately, against and without official authorization, on sheets that were already in private hands. They were printed using official plates but were not available through postal channels. These favor overprints fell into private hands before the official overprints got into circulation. Most were acquired by the Eszék group.

The private overprints of Baranya's first issue are listed in the Brainard catalog as DP1 to 8 (from upper left to lower right in the illustration above). We consider only DP4 as a trial printing. The rest are considered favor overprints.

Because of the primitive nature of the printing, missing or smudged letters often occur. It is just this primitive and varied printing which helps trained experts and collectors dealing with Baranya stamps to be able to distinguish reliably between genuine and forgery. Also given that issue can in no way be considered "speculative" (in that the stamps were in circulation for months and they were authorized by the Hungarian postal authorities), they are worthy of being collected. Even more so because they can be obtained at very low prices considering their rarity, when one compares the size of the issues to the prices.

Examples characteristic smudges and scratches on Baranya I issue resulting from primitive printing quality assurance.

Unsold supplies, remaining in post offices after the takeover from the Hungarian authorities, were shipped to the treasury of the Royal Hungarian Post Office. These have not been offered for sale to date.



Provisional Postage Dues

We also want to mention that during October 1919 postage stamps with a particular Hungarian and Baranya marking appeared, bearing the framed “VI” symbol of Pécs postal money orders. These were used as supplementary postage

Gyula Miertl cover on
Pécs Stamp Collectors’ Association Stationery

considered a third Baranya issue by some philatelists. Most of

these stamps are to be found on philatelic covers made using the stationery of the Pécs Stamp Collectors' Association. Many of them are addressed to Gyula Miertl, the great Baranya collector from Pécs who's personal collection constitutes the core of the Hungarian National Philatelic Museum's Baranya collection. These Pécs Stamp Collectors' Association covers are less sought after than other postally used stationery and addresses, such as the one illustrated below.

Provisional Postage Dues with Framed "VI" to another common Baranya addressee, László Péntek

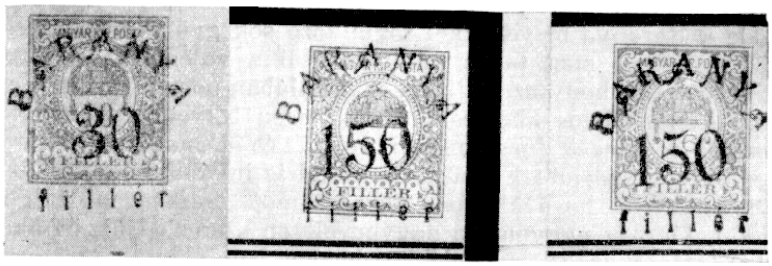
due stamps. Since these were applied with a handstamp, they occur in all sorts of orientations on the stamp. Above we present such stamps on cover, and a few off cover. They have a strong smell of speculation, and we can thank a few zealous collectors for their existence. They only have interest on letters that have passed through the mails. It is just for this reason that we have chosen not to make a detailed listing of them.

Postal Stationery

The postal stationery issued is much more interesting and more worthy of collection. They were in true circulation and, since stamp collectors did not hunt them down, they were used in the conventional postal manner. The following numbers were issued:

	number
30 fillér on 5 fillér postal card (war relief)	14,040
30 fillér on 8 fillér postal card with reply	15,340
30 fillér on 10 fillér postal card	46,665
50 fillér on 6 fillér sealed postal card (war relief)	9,150
50 fillér on 10 fillér sealed postal card (war relief)	24,326
50 fillér on 20 fillér sealed postal card	5,250
150 fillér on 15 fillér small format envelope	1,200
150 fillér on 16 fillér large format envelope	6,169

150 fillér on 35 fillér large format envelope 3,581



The overprints were executed in red. The top line of the overprint is “BARANYA”, in the center is the new denomination, at the bottom is “fillér”. Often the overprint did not fall on the denominated area of the card, but well to the left. It is noteworthy that the overprint is common on the war relief issue. Upon reflection, it is understandable that this issue remained in greatest abundance in the inventory of the Pécs postal administration.

At the time of the second issue, Serbian forces had occupied Baranya and the city of Pécs for one year and one month. Major political and military changes occurred within Hungary. The “commune” collapsed and chief commander Miklós Horthy entered Budapest at the head of the national

Hungarian postal stationery overprinted by occupation authorities was uprated with additional stamps for use to foreign destinations. The two uprated covers illustrated in this box are both addressed to Eduard Locker in Zurich, Switzerland. The cover below is particularly unusual because both Baranya I and II stamps are used on an SHS-overprinted Hungarian cover, making it a particularly good example of mixed usage. The cover illustrated on the facing page is a Hungarian folded postal card bearing ten different Baranya I and II stamps. Both show all the correct transit and arrival markings.

army. In spite of this, the Pécs postal administration was still on its own. It had to take care of itself in the areas of paying its employees and maintaining the postal infrastructure. It received no support yet from Hungary. For this reason, it decided to increase postal rates, resulting in the need for stamps of continually greater denomination. This was the reason for the new issue of overprinted stamps. With this, they also wanted to support postal employees, who received full sets while the public was able to obtain only a few values.

In order to further clarify the situation[under which these issues were created], we present an article from the 17 December 1919 edition of the Pécs newspaper "*Dunántúl*":

"*Stamps with New Overprints*"

Pécs, 16 December 1919

The higher denomination postage stamps issued on 1 October 1919 by the Pécs postal and telegraph authorities to accommodate higher postal rates have been exhausted to the extent that some post offices are barely able to provide postage

for letters, or if they are able, they must use up to 15 smaller denomination stamps to frank the occasional ordinary or special delivery letter. As a consequence, offices are facing the possibility that the remaining trifling supply will be exhausted. To prevent this, higher postal authorities have authorized the revalue and overprinting of remaining 2 fillér special delivery, 2 fillér harvester and postal savings stamps at a10 fillér denomination; the 5 fillér at 20; the 6 fillér at 30; the 25, 40 and 45 fillér at 200; the 15 and 20 fillér at 150; and the 75 fillér at 200 fillér denominations. Each postage stamp is overprinted with "Baranya" in black in a semicircle on the upper portion and beneath this the new denomination appears in red.

The first overprinting occurred under the supervision of a commission constituted by representatives from the administration and accounting office of postal and telegraph authority and from the military command of the occupying forces. The postal authorities were compelled to conduct another overprinting, in part due to the shortages resulting from the new postal rates and in part because of the great real economic constraints of the trifling remaining stamp supply.

Considering the low former price of the new stamp sets, they will only be put on sale at the post and telegraph offices in Pécs on 18 December, while starting on the following day they will only be provided for franking material which is actually to be expedited by the post…

The overprinting is to be done at the "Egyenlöség" ["Equality"] printing house…

We are informed that the postal and telegraph administration allows employees to purchase 10 complete sets of the issue, while they issue only triflingly small amounts [to the public]. They intend the overprint to supplement the stamp supply, who's shortage really can be acutely felt. Now the postal fee must be paid in cash, and the postal representative must affix the stamps to the letter, package or telegraph concerned."

This newspaper article gives an overview of the circumstances related to the issue. In some sources we can read that postal director Lajos Solti initiated the new overprinting because news had spread that the Serbian troops would evacuate Baranya on 1 January, 1920 and that and he was afraid that they would take the stamp supply with them. This does not fit the facts, because they could just as easily have taken the newly overprinted stamps, and anyway, the withdrawal did not materialize. There is one thing that the newspaper article does not mention. Most of the overprints were applied to "Magyar Posta" series stamps. These were not in the inventory of the Pécs postal administration, since they came into circulation in Hungary well after the occupation. The inventory was down to newspaper stamps, a few values from the "Magyar Kir. Posta" series, and the postal savings stamp. These "Magyar Posta" stamps must have come from standing Hungarian territory during the occupation; in fact, they most likely came from the central supply warehouse in Budapest. By this time the "commune" had collapsed and the Pécs postal administration benefited from some support from the nationalist-oriented Hungarian postal administration management. In addition, the Pécs postal administration no longer disliked headquarters in Budapest, since the communists were no longer in power there.

The overprint was typeset at the "Taizs" press in Pécs. The stereotype plates were assembled at the Pécs Literature and Book Press Stock Company. The printing was done at the "Egyenlöség" ["Equality"] printing house, as indicated in the article above.

The stamps were ready for issue on 18 December 1919. Speculator and dealers did not rush this issue as they had done the first one, in part, because the public had been informed that larger quantities were to be released. The therefore did not represent a rarity. The series only consisted of 15 values.

The stamps remained in circulation until the withdrawal of the occupying Serb forces.

Numbers Issued of Baranya II Stamps

Various versions also exist of how many stamps were in this issue. We give the official count, with the observation that flawed and rejected sheets are included. The official list gives the number of sheets which were serviced by the press. Afterwards, we list separately the number of these sheets which were rejected.

The number of copies of the total of 15 values follows:

	number
10 on 2 fillér newspaper stamp, orange	50,000
10 on 10 fillér postal savings, violet	54,100
10 on 2 fillér special delivery, green/red	64,300
20 on 2 fillér harvester (magyar kir. posta), yellowish brn	9,500
20 on 2 fillér harvester (magyar posta), yellowish brn	110,500
30 on 6 fillér harvester (magyar posta), bluish green	60,000
50 on 5 fillér harvester (magyar kir. posta), green	19,700
50 on 5 fillér harvester (magyar posta), green	200,100
100 on 25 fillér harvester (magyar posta), blue	153,500
100 on 40 fillér harvester (magyar posta), olive green	147,100
100 on 45 fillér harvester (magyar kir. posta), orange	35,000
150 on 15 fillér King Károly – Köztársaság, violet	79,600
150 on 15 fillér harvester (magyar kir. posta), violet	20,600
150 on 15 fillér harvester (magyar posta), violet	30,000
200 on 75 fillér parliament stamp, blue	55,000

The rejects consisted in part of inverted and double overprints and in part of heavily shifted overprints and soiled sheets. Given the fact that the word “Baranya” and the value designation were printed separately, partial inverted and double overprints occurred; that is, some with sometimes only the word “Baranya” and other times only the value designation were inverted on the stamp. Unfortunately, even though they were rejected and not put into circulation, they did surface as rarities. Let us expand on the description of these printing errors. The number of rejected sheets should be subtracted from the production numbers above. As we know, one sheet represents 100 stamps. The following number of sheets were rejected for the various types:

	sheets
10 / 2 fillér newspaper stamp, orange	3
10 / 10 fillér postal savings, violet	9
10 / 2 fillér special delivery, green/red	11
20 /2 fillér harvester (magyar kir. posta), yellowish brown	1
20 /2 fillér harvester (magyar posta), yellowish brown	8
30 /6 fillér harvester (magyar posta), bluish green	8
50 /5 fillér harvester (magyar kir. posta), green	18
50 /5 fillér harvester (magyar posta), green	1
100 /25 fillér harvester (magyar posta), blue	5
100 /40 fillér harvester (magyar posta), olive green	8
100 /45 fillér harvester (magyar kir. posta), orange	3
150 /15 fillér King Károly – Köztársaság, violet	4
150 /15 fillér harvester (magyar kir. posta), violet	6
150 /15 fillér harvester (magyar posta), violet	2
200 /75 fillér parliament stamp, blue	2

Overprinting the Stamps

As mentioned earlier, the overprint was typeset at the "Taizs" press and the stereotype plates were assembled at the Pécs Literature and Book Press Stock Company. The plates were fairly imprecisely soldered during assembly. The "Baranya" text for some values has slipped appreciably up or down in some rows, and is not aligned. For example, in the 50 fillér stamp, 4th and 8th position in each row has the word "Baranya" shifted downward 3 mm with respect to the other positions. But we find up- and down-shifts in the other values, too. Naturally, if the stereotype plates were prepared with such carelessness, it is understandable that shifts from the printing are even greater, given the even greater carelessness with which the sheets were placed into the press. For this reason it is virtually impossible to find a sheet both the text and value overprints are well centered.

"Baranya" was set in Japanese-style letters and the overprint is in shiny black. The denominations are imprinted in carmine red. The distribution of the carmine color is also quite uneven. Occasionally the overprint is lighter on the right side of a sheet than on the other, and sometimes it is the other way around. It appears that the ink roller of the press was already quite worn, which is also apparent from the ink spots and smudges to be found on almost every sheet.

We also find an appreciably number of plate errors. On the 200 / 75 [fillér] parliament stamp, the first "A" is an "Á", resulting in "BÁRANYA" as we show in Figure 1.

Figure 1

The plate error on the 50 / 5 [fillér] “magyar posta” and 50 / 5 [fillér] “magyar kir. posta” stamps is rarer, because it only occurs once per sheet. The right side of the zero in “50” is cut off. This error, illustrated in Figure 2, occurs in position 21 of each sheet.

Figure 2

Just as rare is the plate error of the 100 fillér stamp, which occurs in position 61, also once per sheet. [*In fact, the relative rarity also depends on the number printed (as seen above), not just on the relative frequency*.] This error consists of the “1” in the overprinted “100” being broken at it’s lower third, on the 100 / 25 [fillér], 100 / 40 [fillér] and 100 / 45 [fillér] stamps. The error is illustrated in all three of the denominations in Figure 3.

Figure 3

Occasionally dots can be found between the numbers on these same 100 fillér stamps. However, they are not errors in composition from incorrectly typesetting real periods, but result from unclean handling during which small lead foundry-fragments lodge between letters, manifesting themselves as dots during printing. The following variations can be found: 10’0 10.0 1.0.0 and 1’00 (Figure 4).

Figure 4

Shifts in the overprinting of both “Baranya” and the denomination can be found in infinite variety. At times the shift is so great that only half of the overprint falls upon a stamp. We show a few examples of such shifted overprints in Figure 5.

Now let us change the subject to rejected material [printer’s waste]. As we mentioned before, this never got into circulation and therefor can not be considered to be printing errors. Rather it is waste material that got into the hands of

collectors in a round about way and can not be listed with the errors enumerated above. Its collector's value is slight.

Figure 5

The above-listed 89 sheets were rejected during the oversight of the printing. These sheets wound up in the stock of the postal administration. After the withdrawal of the Serbian troops, they were acquired by the association of the postal sanatorium, who attempted to turn them to good account and sell them. The association entrusted engineers Káplán and Dragos with the task. They applied a carmine-colored backstamp (shown in Figure 6) with a metal die, in the form of intertwined letters "K.D." in a shield like frame surrounded by the "Baranya II tévny." ["Baranya pri. error"]. Stamps thus desig-

Figure 6

nated must obligatorily come from the printer's waste and thus their collector's value is quite low. The prices attained by the stamps thus brought to the market never achieved the anticipated success, which is understandable, since they were never in postal circulation. Thus in the fall of 1922 a collector from Pécs bought the entire remaining stock, and continued to market it. The following varieties are known in this waste material:

10/2 fillér newspaper stamp, w/*Baranya* overprint only (w/o value)

10/10 postal savings stamp, with inverted *Baranya* overprint only

10/2 special delivery stamp, with *Baranya* overprint only

30/6 harvester (magyar posta) stamp, w/ inverted *Baranya* only

50/5 harvester (magyar posta) stamp, with *Baranya* overprint only

50/5 harvester (magyar kir. posta) stamp, w/*Baranya* overprint only

100/25 harvester (magyar posta) stamp, w/ inverted *Baranya* only

100/40 harvester (magyar posta) stamp, w/ double *Baranya* only

100/45 harvester (magyar posta) stamp, w/ *Baranya* overprint only

150/15 King Károly – Köztársaság stamp, w/*Baranya* overprint only

150/15 harvester (magyar kir. posta) stamp, w/*Baranya* overprint only

Inverted Overprints

Also known are the 20 / 2 [fillér] harvester stamp, which has the word “Baranya” imprinted normally but with the denomination “blind printed”, and the 10 / 2 [fillér] special delivery stamp, which has both overprints inverted. Additionally known are the 10 / 10 [fillér] postal savings stamp with “Baranya” inverted but with the denomination normally printed and its inverse, namely with “Baranya” normally printed but with the denomination inverted. Appreciably shifted overprints can also be found in this waste material. Those stamps that do not have the above-mentioned imprint, were actually issued [*unless they are forgeries*], and such an example of a shifted overprint can legitimately be added to our collections.

Overprints Without Imprinted Denominations

More interesting than these stamps are those pairs on which one is overprinted but the adjacent stamp is not. These did actually get into circulation. The secret of their origin is the same as that of partially imperforate Hungarian stamps. The edge of the sheet, generally the corner, got folded over during printing and thus some stamps did not get overprinted, or should

I say, got overprinted on the back of the sheet. We find pairs with either the right or left stamp unimprinted. Of these, the 20 / 2 [fillér] harvester (magyar posta), 150 / 15 [fillér] harvester (magyar posta),), 150 / 15 [fillér] King Károly – Köztársaság, 100 / 40 [fillér] harvester (magyar posta), and 200 /75 [fillér] parliament stamps have become well known. It is said that such overprint-free stamps had the revised denomination reapplied, to avoid having to reject the whole sheet. In such cases, the denomination overprint may have been inverted. This would have lead inverted overprint being adjacent to a normal one (tête-béche). However, we have not yet seen these.

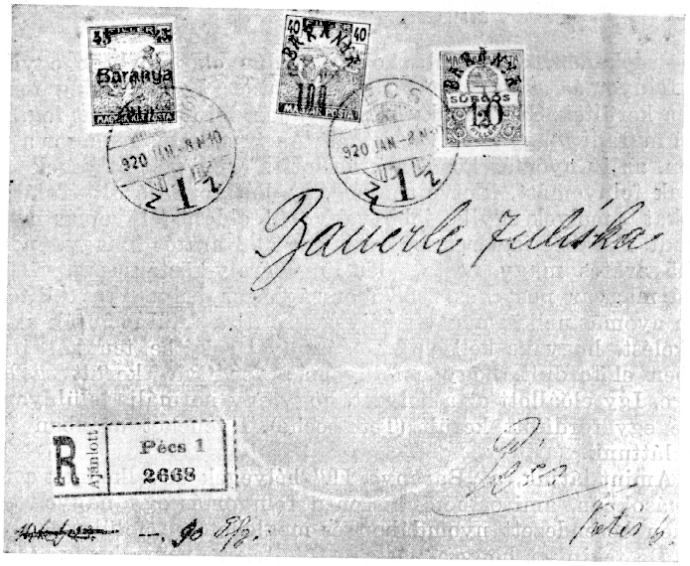
As we see, the Baranya II stamps abound in errors, which is understandable, since the overprinting was done in a very simply equipped print shop and in a fairly casual way. Luckily, the printer's waste is not dangerous since it was not issue by the postal administration and since it later found its way into the hands of collectors in a well marked condition. The errors listed above are all the more collectable because they can be obtained cheaply, often at the price of the ordinary stamp. In addition, we can decorate our collection with a few heavily shifted overprints that are easily encountered.

A consequence of the primitive manner in which the overprinting was executed is that some parts of some letters may be omitted or smudged. But these do not warrant particular attention because they occur due to irregularly inked or dirty plates. This occurs randomly and can therefor not be considered plate flaws or printing errors.

Pricing the Stamps of Baranya II

We give the pricing in pengö-fillér. We only give prices for used stamps. The majority of used stamps have favor cancellations, making their valuation a fantasy [arbitrary]. Used

stamps have value only on original covers. Generally, the rarest covers have stamps from both issues, since it will be recalled that



the second issue appeared while the first was still in circulation and thus mixed franking can occur. We present such a cover [below] to our readers. Such covers, which have truly passed through the mails, are always prized in our collections.

Postally Used Cover with Mixed Franking

Prices for various 18 December 1919 Hungarian stamps overprinted with “Baranya” set in Japanese-style letters in shiny black and with revalued by centrally printed numerals in carmine:

	Pengö
10 / 2 fillér newspaper stamp, orange (a)	0.10
10 / 10 fillér postal savings, violet (a)	0.10
10 / 2 fillér special delivery, green/red (a)	0.08
20 /2 fillér harvester (magyar kir. posta), yellowish brn (b)	2.50
20 /2 fillér harvester (magyar posta), yellowish brown (b)	0.04
30 /6 fillér harvester (magyar posta), bluish green (c)	0.08
50 /5 fillér harvester (magyar kir. posta), green (d)	0.60

50 /5 fillér harvester (magyar posta), green (d)	0.03
100 /25 fillér harvester (magyar posta), blue (e)	0.04
100 /40 fillér harvester (magyar posta), olive green (e)	0.04
100 /45 fillér harvester (magyar kir. posta), orange (e)	0.36
150 /15 fillér King Károly – Köztársaság, violet (f)	0.10
150 /15 fillér harvester (magyar kir. posta), violet (f)	0.70
150 /15 fillér harvester (magyar posta), violet (f)	0.40
200 /75 fillér parliament stamp, blue (g)	0.10

a b c d

e g f

a b c d

e g f

These prices further show how Hungarian occupation stamps have been neglected. Unfortunately it is true that we can obtain a stamp of which only 50,000 were issued for 10 fillér and one which exists only in 9,500 examples for 2.50 pengö. In fact, some catalogs value these stamps even lower, so that it may be possible to obtain them even cheaper. Let us hope that with time, Hungarian occupation issues (which belong in the collections of Hungarian collectors more than the speculation blocks and numerous other speculative series) will command better prices.

Among the printing errors, the 200 / 75 [fillér] parliament stamp with “Báranya” rather than “Baranya” costs 2.00 pengö.

The 50 /5 fillér harvester (magyar posta) stamp with the right side of the zero cut off costs 2.00 pengö while the same error on the 5 fillér (magyar kir. posta) stamp costs 5.00 pengö.

The 100 fillér overprint with a broken (or rather, cut) “1” on the 25 and 40 fillér harvester (magyar posta) stamps are 2.00 pengö, while this overprint error on the 45 5 fillér [magyar kir. posta] stamp costs 5.00 pengö.

We do not price the printers waste stamps here. These stamps do not belong in collections. If they are nevertheless acquired as curiosities, the are worth no more than 40 or 50 fillér each. Also in the category are test printings in which the work “Baranya” or the denomination appears on gray or yellowish gray paper. These were obtained from the print shop, were ink formulations were tested on such papers. They have no collectors’ value.

Forgeries

To close, we recall the forgery of “Baranya II” stamps. For many years, these stamps were not forged, because their cost was not significant and an adequate number was on the market. Forgeries were made primarily for the “packet trade”, which benefited from the sale of the additional packet which was made up of these 15 stamps. The majority of these forgeries were made in bulk in Budapest. Unfortunately, we get no help [in identification] from a characteristic mark, as we do with the drift of the two impressions in the first series. Nevertheless, a somewhat experienced collector will immediately recognize a forgery.

Forgery

The genuine overprint is shiny black. Thus, the overprint reflects, like lacquer. The letters are heavily pressed into the stamp, and therefor they stand out on the back of the stamp. Since forgeries are made by lithography, they are faint black, washed out and do not stand out on the back. The color of the overprinted value on the stamp is dark carmine and it also stands out [appears embossed] on the back of the stamp. Forgeries have fainter numerals overprinted and they do not stand out. We present one forgery to our readers [illustrated above]. Press-printed forgeries have not yet appeared. These

can be more dangerous. In doubtful cases, we should turn to reliable experts.

Baranya II Forgeries

Genuine	Forgery
Production Method	
printed	lithographed
“BARANYA” Ink Color	
shiny black	washed-out black
Denomination Ink Color	
dark carmine	lighter red
Overprint Impressions	
both embossed on back	smooth back